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IDEA-0357-61

Copy 4 of 7

26 June 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Special Requirements Staff, DPD

SUBJECT : Suggested Handling of Mission Staging Areas as  
Need-to-Know IDEALIST

1. Your attention is invited to the attached excerpt from the 22 May 1961 "Periscope" section of Newsweek magazine.

2. It is by no means inferred that the information upon which the Newsweek article was based resulted from a security leak within the American intelligence community. However, the matter emphasizes a need for application of need-to-know rule concerning the location of staging bases from which IDEALIST missions are initiated. It is requested in each instance therefore, that you consider whether or not members of the COMOR, although appropriately cleared, require such information and when absolutely necessary, that you accompany the awareness with a security admonition.


3. The reasons for this suggestion are as follows:

a. Extreme sensitivity connected with all pre-mission planning details.

b. The obvious advantages to be gained from close compartmentation of this information at such times as it becomes necessary to ascertain the source of a security leak.

4. I would be happy to discuss this matter with you at your convenience.

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Chief, Security Branch  
DPD-DD/P

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Attachment to IDBA-0357

CPYRGHT

Pentagon Whispers  
Laughlin AFB, Texas - Nothing has been said,  
but a U-2 photo plane - the same type that  
did high-altitude reconnaissance over Russia -  
flew over Cuba just before the abortive rebel  
landings. The mission - one of the last from  
this soon-to-be-closed base - gave the CIA a  
set of near-perfect pictures of Cuban airfields  
(and the planes on them) and military bases.